

“Celebrating 80 Years in Central Arkansas”



September 2009

And I can say that considering my place in the timeline... So...

A long time ago, the AGO came to Arkansas and Chartered a Chapter; things haven't been the same since... So to me, it is a fine thought to know that our presence in Central Arkansas has been felt for over 80 years now. To celebrate, I'm starting a new column, titled *A Long Time "AGO"*, this column will feature various tidbits about our history. Just maybe seeing how we did things in the past will inspire us to do more in the future. A thank you goes to David Scribner for locating a review about an Arkansas artist in the August 1956 TAO! If you have any information about our past, send it to editor@cacago.org. Hope you enjoy this months Clarion, and see you in September!

Your Editor,

Christian Lentz

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CACAGO SLATE OF

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Wayne Simpson

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Betty Anderson

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Betty Deislinger

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Nathan Beethe

Bert Miller

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Church of St. Mary the Virgin
Recited by the winner of the 1956 AGO national organ competition

FAMILY ANN COOPER, of Arkadelphia, Arkansas, a pupil of Robert Ellis at Henderson College in the same City, was the winner of the 1936 national competition for students. Her recital, played in the Church of St. Mary the Virgin, was as follows:

Allegro (Sonata 6)	Bach
Largo e spiccato (Concerto in D minor)	Vivaldi-Bach
Fugue a la Gigue	Bach
Canabile	France
Scherzo (Symphonie 2)	Vienna
Introduction, Passacaglia and Fugue	Widor

Miss Cooper's recital was a *cours de force*. She played with the freshness and vitality of youth and with fine control of the instrument. Some small points that cannot be said to mark a recital were the rubato in the opening, and recapitulation of the Trio Sonata, and the phrasing of the *allegro* passage; the use of 16' stops over sub-octaves when using full organ; the fly that walked over the measure in the *Weller Inge*; and the slightly strident Clarinet in the *Virens*.

Some large things that gave satisfaction were the technical cleanliness of the dufoels; two; the colonial registrations; the effluence and dash of the *Scherzo*; and his general artistry and musicianship.

It is worth mentioning, for the benefit of those who haven't heard the organ in St. Mary's, that the instrument is enormous: high and speaks straight into the church; the effect is bright and clear, and, to many, one of the loveliest sounds of it kind in New York. A. C.-B.

St. Bartholomew's Church	
Clarence Mader	
Partita and Ruge, Opus 41, No. 1	Raphael
Ocelloraster, Opus 29	Mikaelso
Portrait Cycle	Mader
Symphony No. 3	Vaughan

CLARENCE MADER, the west coast's sole theatrical representative, played a program of contemporary works on *convention Friday* in St. Bartholomew's Church. The reading began with the Episcopal and Methodist hymns, "Lead us, O Christ, our heavenly Father," and "O God, our Heavenly Father, we are here," as Mader's own *Portrait Cycle* continued such a highly interesting, philosophical thought even though I just met Mr. Laurence Swigoigian in this "CF Understanding" was not, precisely. I cannot help but feel that Mr. Mader's ideas of children and of youth make me less than hopeful for the world of tomorrow. Again agreeing with Mr. Swigoigian, the Vaughan Symphony is truly in not.

As will be noted elsewhere in this issue, a generation long, differently large as to just what the present-day composer is attempting—what he is trying to prove. I do not profess to sit in judgment but I do feel that music is no different, in quality, content, or style, from the music of the past. Each new line into the future until it gives considerable further beyond these mental alterations. The wedding of sacred and secular in compositional thinking has to far as I know not approached the diverse sort.

Giuseppe Verdi is a gentleman (and I mean gentleman too) when he most best plays his "piano organ" program. He is a man of great power and a great deal of his admiration for his willingness to accomplish his program in the place, but I wish he could have delineated his considerable ability in music more agreeable to listen to, music which is more than *an organ* for the sake of being that, only.

Sabbath Evening Service: Emanuel Chior; Kathryn Oakes, soprano; Diane Griffiths, contralto; William Hoffmann, baritone; Robert Baker, director-organist; Herman Beilinski, organist.

Sorte de la Loi	Milhouse
Prière maternelle	Milhouse
Zénitude	Buchini
Two Polices	Shenck
Two Pro-des	Ezer
L'insouff	Belloni
Burlesque et S'mme Yacouf	Cosentino
Mé chouchou	Black
Volez-vous	Jacobini
O my the words	Wagner
By the street of Babylon	Savitskiy
Valentines	Jacobi
Kidnap	"national-socialist"
America after	Warner
Journal d'un Ratignonne	Berling
Chantale et l'école au "Lion"	Graham

FROM the opening notes of the first of the organ pre-ludes, all of us in the congregation in Temple Baptist Church knew that the service was going to be musically rewarding. Dr. Robert Dyer chose some extremely effective and new music for the preludes, and he played this entire service with the utmost ability and superb effect. It could not help but marvel at the fact of Dr. Baker's excellent effort having to be sandwiched in with all of his other extensive duties, and so I know just that his musical talent showed real genius.

Not to be mistaken in speaking of "secularists," I have never heard the Temple organ sound so well; and this is not simply because Dr. Baker has been playing there for several years (and was chiefly responsible for the rebuilding of the organ), but rather because he is utterly musical and musicality.

The choir at the Temple is equally as good as the synagogue. It is unfortunate that most of us never hear a good choir singing a Jewish Service, since it has become customary for these services to be sung by solo quartets (most of which are taken from the opera house and the symphony); but, if there has been any doubt that such a good choir can exist and sing such a service, it was quickly dispelled by this performance in the Temple. They are reputedly one of the finest choral groups in New York City. Their tone, balance, blend, dynamic control and all such attributes are superb, and their interpretative powers show a magnificent understanding of the music they are singing. It was thrilling to understand how they sang and why.

Literally, my impression is that music in Reformed Jewish Worship is contained by performance rather than participation. The congregation does a great deal of reading, most of it responsive, but I have never heard any successful hymn singing of the like, and I understand that when this is tried it is not extremely rewarding. There were some moments when I felt that the organ music during solemn, liturgical moments of priestly functions marked vacancy of what we in Christian liturgical circles call "musical mood," but Dr. Bakar performed such in the best of taste, not milking it for as very deep.

Amid the favorable comment on all sides, apparently I was the only one who felt this, so obviously the concert emphasis of all the music in Temple Emanuel was vastly successful, even in this light. Many cheers for a most rewarding experience.

THE AMERICAN ORGANIST

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THE AMERICAN
ORGANIST

AUGUST 1958



Above: The Stained glass Windows of St. Paul's in Little Rock, AR

Friday, September 11th, 2009

Hymn Festival with 9/11 Remembrance and Installation of Officers for 2009-2010

Presented By:

The Central Arkansas Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

Hosted by

**St. Paul's United Methodist Church
2223 Durwood Rd. Little Rock**

Dinner reservations may be placed with Marian Berry via-email
Dinner@cacago.org or phoned in to 501-663-1693. Marian is accepting
reservations until 5 pm, Wednesday, September 9th. You should receive a
confirmation of your reservations via email or phone. If you do not get
confirmation, please call Marian to ensure your reservation has been placed.
We are anticipating a wonderful night of music making and fellowship.

Catering by St. Paul's Ringers Hand bell Choir

Punchbowl: 6:00 PM Dinner: 6:30 PM Program: 8:00 PM

(A side note, if you have standing reservations it would be help to confirm you are on the list!)

For more information contact Phil Bordeleau 501-374-2794

What's For Dinner?

Chicken Spaghetti Casserole

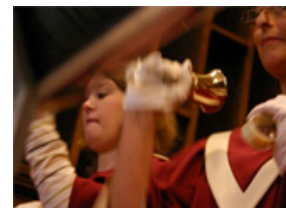
Vegetable Salad

Rolls Dessert

Tea/Coffee

Non-Meat Entree will be available per requests

For more info on St. Paul's go to: <http://www.stpaulumclr.org/>



This Month we feature:

Bob Bidewell, Organ

**The St. Paul Ringers
Hand bell Choir**

Jonathan Merritt, Organ

**Adam Savacool,
Hand bell Soloist**

Liturgists from St. Paul



<http://www.kuar.org/>



Pipedreams®

<http://pipedreams.publicradio.org/>

Next Month: October 30th at 8pm

Ahreum Han, Organist in Recital



**SAINT MARK'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH**



1000 N Mississippi St, Little Rock, AR 72207
for more Information Contact Craig Chotard (501) 225-4203
<http://st-marks.com/>

MISCELLANEOUS PIPING



From Our Dean:

As I am writing this message to our chapter, it is an unseasonably cool evening in August. This respite from the heat reminds us that fall is coming. With that reminder its also time to think about our fall season of organ music. Our first meeting will be held at St. Paul Methodist Church in Little Rock, with Bob Bidewell as our host. Bob has planned a wonderful hymn fest and the installation of our officers will take place on that evening.

You will see other highlights of our chapter's programming elsewhere in the newsletter. We ask that everyone renew his or her dues as quickly as possible. Please take this as a reminder that dues lapsed on July 1. Membership dues unpaid will cease receiving the "TAO", our national magazine, and "The Clarion", our local newsletter.

Because we have committed to providing our concerts free of admission fees, we ask that our chapter members consider a gift to the CACAGO. You can place a small greeting in the yearbook for only \$35. Your name and greeting will be seen all year long by our members! A larger greeting is of course allowable. See the website for our rate sheet.

As a guild we are called; called to give our talents to be passed along to another generation of potential organists; we are also called to continually improve our own skills.

Think about audience development. Bring a friend to a concert. Perhaps an individual or group of individuals can support advertising costs. We need to make our concerts known to the community at large. Advertising in the media assists in getting word out. There are also avenues in smaller networks, which can build our audiences.

I look forward to the wealth of artistry and diverse styles of programming to be represented. See you at the September 11th meeting.

Phil Bordeleau; Dean
CACAGO

Attention!

As we approach the deadline for the Yearbook I would like to remind everyone that if any of the information on your renewal form has changed since you sent it in to please send those changes to me at: webmaster@cacago.org so I can make the corrections in the final copy of the Yearbook.

Thanks

David Scribner

Membership dues officially lapsed July 1, 2009. If you have not renewed by now, do it! Please be included in our yearbook, a great source for information about your colleagues and substitutes.

Recordings of our programs are still available for purchase, such as our Young and Rising Stars, or our Organ and Orchestra Extravaganza from last year. To purchase these recordings please contact David at webmaster@cacago.org.

The Cathedral School Advanced Choral Program

LITTLE ROCK – The sounds of heavenly voices will soon be filling the courtyards and classrooms at The Cathedral School on Spring Street. The school has announced a new Choir School program to begin in September 2009.

"The Choristers will receive advanced musical and vocal training as part of every school day," explained Trinity Cathedral's Organist and Choirmaster, Timothy Allen. "The program represents a major opportunity for those children in the city who show some early musical promise as well as providing parents with a chance to discover latent talent."

Choir schools are an important part of musical life in Allen's native Great Britain. "They provide boy and girl choristers for the fantastic choral tradition that exists in British Cathedrals and provide a wonderful opportunity for young children to be involved in professional standard music-making," he said as he outlined the Cathedral School's plan to offer a high-quality singing program to the children of Little Rock and the surrounding areas.

Choristers will be pupils at The Cathedral School and will study the full academic curriculum for which the School already has an outstanding reputation. Each day they will meet for rehearsal under Allen's instruction. Choristers also will be encouraged to undertake some instrumental study with a teacher from the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra. Allen did not rule out offering places at the school to gifted instrumentalists who would also be able to develop their skills during the school day. "An instrumental program is something we are actively considering for those children who show early promise as pianists, violinists, and the like".

Allen will serve as the director of the new Choral program. Born in St Albans, England, he was an Organ Scholar at Cambridge University where he obtained his Masters degree in Music. As well as being an outstanding organist, he is an experienced choir trainer of boys and girls and spent 16 years in English and Irish Cathedrals recruiting, training and performing daily with choristers. He was appointed to Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in November 2006 and is married to soprano Christine Westhoff.

The Cathedral School will announce the first of a series of auditions in the next few weeks. "We are keen to see and hear anyone who is interested in being part of something musically new and exciting," said Allen who explained that the auditions would be very gentle and friendly and that he would be looking more for potential ability than current talent. Allen also added that some scholarship funding may be available for suitable candidates.

Several studies show how much study of the Arts, particularly Music, can affect overall academic performance including the enhancement of reading, mathematical and social skills.

For more information, please contact Timothy Allen at 501-372-0294 or by e-mail at tallen@arkansas.anglican.org

**MINUTES OF THE CACAGO MEETING, MAY 15, 2009
ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, LITTLE ROCK, AR
CRAIG CHOTARD, HOST**

Phil Bordeleau, dean, called the meeting to order with a big thank-you to our host and to the Crave folks for our punch bowl and the delicious dinner we enjoyed. Phil then thanked the officers for their service to the Guild the past year. He also expressed appreciation to David Scribner, Christian Lentz, Marian Berry, and Virginia Strohmeier-Miles for a job well done. Betty Deislinger then gave a full treasurer's report. She enumerated ways we could be better stewards of our financial resources. To save postage, get more people on the e-mail list for the Clarion; to eliminate postage, vote for new officers and renew memberships online. Monetary gifts large and small are welcome and encouraged. Even small gifts can make a big difference in financing our programming and advertising. Next, Larry Kircher gave a report on our investment with the Arkansas Community Foundation. At the moment it is not performing as well as expected. Phil then asked for suggestions for programs for next year and perhaps in the future. He also urged members to please renew their Guild memberships as soon as possible, and not wait until the last minute. Yearbook ads need to be turned in ASAP. He thanked the members for their support throughout the "YEAR OF THE ORGAN." Last but not least, the election auditors gave the results of the voting for new officers, from both the absentee ballots and those cast at the May meeting:

DEAN--Phil Bordeleau

SUB-DEAN--Wayne Simpson

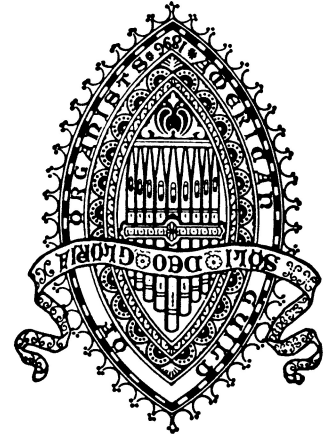
TREASURER--Betty Deislinger

SECRETARY--Betty Anderson

MEMBER-AT-LARGE--Nathan Beethe

Respectfully submitted,

Betty Anderson,
CACAGO secretary



The Central Arkansas Chapter of
the American Guild of Organists
P.O. Box 2765
Little Rock, AR 72203-2765

THE 09/10 SEASON FOR THE CACAGO

SEPTEMBER 11, 2009

Hymn Festival with 9/11 Remembrance and Installation of Officers
for 2009-2010

St. Paul United Methodist Church, Little Rock, AR

Bob Bidewell and Jonathan Merritt, Organ

Adam Savacool, Hand bell Soloist

The St. Paul Ringers Hand bell Choir

Liturgists from St. Paul

OCTOBER 30, 2009

St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Little Rock, AR

Ahreum Han, Organist

NOVEMBER 20, 2009

Third Annual Concert Benefiting Arkansas Children's Hospital
Pediatric Injury Prevention Program

First Presbyterian Church, Little Rock, AR

Alan Morrison, Organ

Jeannine Morrison, Piano

Gala Reception following the Program

DECEMBER 2009 No Meeting

JANUARY 15, 2010

7TH Annual Organ Concert celebrating the life of Robert Ellis

Christ Episcopal Church, Little Rock, AR

Thomas Sheehan, Organist

FEBRUARY 5, 2010

Festival of String Orchestra, Harpsichord, and Organ
Cathedral of St. Andrew Little Rock

Phil Bordeleau, Kay McAfee, and Ann Rye

MARCH 19, 2010

Annual Richard Hixson "Birthday" Recital

Christ Episcopal Church Little Rock, AR

A Festival of Organ and Brass

Nathan Laube, Organist

Pinnacle Brass

APRIL 24, 2010

Joint Meeting of the Arkansas AGO Chapters

(Celebrating the 80th Anniversary of the AGO in Arkansas)

Subiaco Abbey Church, Subiaco, AR

Casey Cantwell, Organist

Recital at 10:00 AM – Luncheon at Noon

MAY 21, 2010

First United Methodist Church, Pine Bluff, AR

Josh Stafford, Organist

All Friday programs will have a Punch Bowl and Dinner preceding the Program